ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A way of reducing the impact of denial of service attacks is presented. For each connection request received by a server, the server attempts to establish a connection to accommodate the corresponding request. For each connection request that the server cannot currently handle, the connection request is placed in a backlog queue for future handling. If one or more of the backlog queues have entries, connection sockets that have connections but no received request data are identified and disconnected. Such connection sockets would be highly suspect of being generated as a result of denial of service attacks. Upon disconnection, resources are freed for legitimate requests thereby improving server performance even during denial of service attacks.

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